

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Columbus Division of Fire Offers Firework Safety Tips

[Columbus – OH] Using retail fireworks on the Fourth of July is a tradition that can be safe if a few common sense rules are followed. The Columbus Division of Fire offers these safety tips for using retail fireworks with the hope of greatly reducing injuries this holiday season:

- Only use fireworks outdoors.
- Know your fireworks; read the warning labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- Designate someone to operate the fireworks and organize the show.
- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save alcoholic beverages until all of the fireworks are ignited.
- Closely supervise teens if they are using fireworks.
- Young children should NOT handle or use fireworks.
- Always have water ready when igniting fireworks.
- Obey local laws. If fireworks are illegal where you live, do not use them.
- Wear safety glasses when igniting fireworks.
- Never relight a “dud” firework. Wait 20 minutes and place it in a bucket of water.
- Soak spent fireworks in water before putting them in an outdoor garbage can.
- Never attempt to alter fireworks. Only use them in the manner in which they were intended.
- Report illegal explosives to the fire or police department.

The Columbus Division of Fire urges resident to follow these common sense safety rules in their holiday celebrations.

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